Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

It is unfair of the larger Sinclair corporation to require the local news stations to broadcast a program the local station does not feel appropriate for the viewing audience. Sinclair feels that movies such as Fahrenheit 9-11 need to be answered with an opposing view point. This may be true, but Fahrenheit 9-11 was NOT shown over the public airwaves as an unbiased documentary and has been shown with plenty of time for rebuttal by the opposing side. Sinclair's desire to show a one-sided point of view on John Kerry's war service two weeks before the election is blatant electioneering and should be stopped.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.